



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Docket No. MIPFP056

Examiner: P. Saunders

Group Art Unit: 2622

Date: March 5, 2008

Confirmation No. 6260

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 5, 2008.

Diane Schwanbeck

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants submit this paper in response to the Office Action dated February 4, 2008.

Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement as being improper because it was issued after the first action on the merits (Applicants note that 37 CFR 1.146 provides authority for the issuance of an election of species requirement only in the first action on an application). Nevertheless, in response to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby elect the 3rd species identified by the Examiner (the embodiment shown in Figure 19) for prosecution on the merits. Applicants submit that at least claims 1, 2, 5-7, 16-18, 21-23, 32, and 33 read on the elected species.

If any fees are due to effect consideration of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. MIPFP056).

Respectfully submitted,
MARTINE PENILLA & GENCARELLA, LLP

[Handwritten signature]

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